

Early Spiritual Experience of George Fox.¹

When G. ff. was brought up into Christ y^e seed in his Young Dayes he saw how that Christ made all things new, and y^e Earth and all things gave anoth^r smell to him & he saw y^e state of Adam & Eve before they fell, & y^e state in Christ that shall never fall & yⁿ y^e state of Adam after he fell in y^e fall & he saw all people were full of darkness. But wⁿ he was sent forth into y^e world the world made a great noise like a great sea and like a Bryery thorny Wilderness, & he was made to get Lethern Breeches & Doublet² & such he hath kept on Ever since Except a Little, one hot Sum^r he had a pare of Stuff Breeches & Dubblet but he was made to Lay y^m away again and he saw how that Christ enlightened Every Man y^t Came into y^e world & how that y^e spirit of God was poured upon all Men & Women & how that y^e Grace of God w^{ch} brings Salvation had appeared unto all Men, and at y^e first he did not know that he should be sent forth wⁿ he was in y^e blessed happy state of X^t Jesus more than Can bee uttered, & saw y^e state that should never fall, but wⁿ that y^e Lord moved him by his pow^r to goe forth to turn people from y^e Darkness y^t they were in, to y^e Light of X^t w^{ch} was y^e Life in him by whom all things were made & Created and that they should believe in y^e Light wth w^{ch} they might see their sins & become Childrein of y^e Light & see their Saviour y^t dyed for their sins & is Risen for their Justification & wth y^e Light they might see X^t their way to God, their prophet, Bishop shepherd Rock & foundation & meadiato^r that makes their peace betwixt y^m & God & this Light y^e Life in X^t would nev^r deceive y^m. And like wise to turn y^m to y^e Grace of God y^t would teach y^m to deny Ungodlyness & Unrighteousness & y^e Lusts of y^e world & to live Godly Righteously & soberly & . . .

¹ From an ancient manuscript in D., consisting of notes on the life of George Fox. It is a fragment only of four pages and has been crossed through as though used for some account of G.F., perhaps the first printed edition of his Journal.

² Readers of Fox's Journal are well acquainted with the fact that Fox wore leather *breeches* (i. 89). That he had a *suit* of leather has not, so far as we know, been substantiated from any ancient document, although the reference to "Fox's making to himself a suit of leather," in Carlyle's *Sartor Resartus*, has long been quoted.